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Training

27 July 1978

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: Fellowship in Congressional Operations  
1975-1976

SUMMARY

The Fellowship in Congressional Operations (Congressional Fellowship Program) is a very useful program for midcareer, midlevel Agency officers. It provides a broad experience, applicable in any Directorate, and equips the participant with an insight into Congressional inquiries which are likely, at one time or another, to descend upon him on return to the Agency and his parent office.

DISCUSSION

The 1975-1976 Program contained 40 participants equally divided among federal employees, academics, and physicians. Three diplomats from Bangladesh also joined the group. With the exception of the academics, who ranged in age from 25 to 35 years, the ages of the group ranged from 33 to 50 years.

Although the Program is officially sponsored by the Civil Service Commission, the Commission personnel

little else. Day-to-day operation of the Program was handled by the American Political Science Association.

The entire Program is divided into four phases: a seminar series at Johns Hopkins; a Senate work experience; a Canadian Parliamentary Exchange; and a House work-experience.

The Johns Hopkins phase is a graduate seminar into which the federal fellows are enrolled if they represent agencies with an international mission. The seminars are augmented by smaller, informal luncheons at which guest speakers discuss various aspects of Congress, and if they were former fellows, they shared their experiences.